RICHARD GANTHONY'S \$1,000 PRIZE FROM THE COURT.

lemories of an Expected New "Hamlet" -Why Specialize "McFadden's Flats"? There Are Others-Viola Allen Breaking Records-A Barber Shop Incident.

The astonishing verdict of \$1,000 secured by Richard Ganthony against a London daily newspaper forcibly calls to our atten-tion the fact that libel in the British capital is not to be sneezed at. Fancy the liberal doses of fines and imprisonment American theatrical writers would receive if London legal conditions prevailed here. All the Daily Express said was that George Hawtrey rewrote "A Message from Mars"! Is that so wickedly libellous? After witnessing the clumsy machinery of Mr. Ganthony's overpraised modern morality we think that it might be easily rewritten.

The announcement that Edmund Russell, "the English actor," will essay Hamlet this month at a special matinée has set mories to work. As the gentleman shows himself quite freely on the avenue all doubts have been set at rest. It is the same Edmund Russell, who with Mrs. Edmund Rusell, lectured on gems and their symbolism at Hardman Hall over ten years ago. Mrs. Russell-who remarried a well-known poet, since dead-was an apostle of Delsarte. Mr. Russell, if we remember aright, did not betray any marked aptitude as elocutionist or actor. He seemed rather lanquid-nay, tepid is a better word. He "went in" for the intensely resthetic pose, and his eyes,

they were yearning and soulful.

One reads with awe that he has offered to Drina de Wolfe the rôle of Ophelia because of her good work in "The Taming of Helen." Mr. Russell must be a humorities for the sould be a support t, for only a humorist could supply such

We fail to see why "McFadden's Flats" should be discriminated against while Spotless Town" escapes. Without wishing A. O. H. that Irish ladies and gentlemen are made to say and do things at the Fourteenth Street Theatre that may prove highly distasteful to sensitive Celtic palates. to incite to riot we do not mind telling the Nor are the Germans spared. Whoever raw off the stage (or on) two such Germans as Carlin and Brown? And the man with the collar buttons and the Dave Warfield hat? No, it's not fair, this "McFadden Flats" émeute. But what a thundering advertisement for the piece!

It suggested itself that the reason Mr Ganthony was so hot after the newspaper is because he sold the rights of "A Message From Mars" to Charles Hawtrey for \$500—financial suicide, as the play has been a small gold mine to its owner. At least this is the story related.

Paul Kester is in a hurry to overtake Clyde Fitch. He is said to be writing a play for Mrs. Langtry, one for Bertha Galland, another for Julia Marlowe and col-laborating with Mr. Mansfield on still an-other. Quite Kesterfieldian!

Viola Allen and Hall Caine's "The Eternal City" have been enjoying great business on the road. Now ensconced in Philadelphia for the second time this season, Miss Allen and company—and play—broke the records in Newark. Einghamton, Wilkes-Barre. Reading and Allentown. "Wiola, Wiola, we may mock at your viola chest tones, but they certainly create havoc in the bosom

At the Savoy the other night Mr. Miller uttered his regular speech in the first act "My play will not be a success; there is: no sextet in it," and immediately a lady" was one of the original "Florodora" sextet. Never mind the name. It may begin with an S. Mr. Miller regarded her with coldest of eyes. As she sat shivering under the glacial reproof a matronly woman behind her said in severe accents:

"A horrid professional person, I suppose." Then Mr. Miller went on with the subjugation of Helen Cabot.

How and where did the report originate that Viola Allen was to be managed by

Charles B. Dillingham next season? No one is more mystified in the matter than this energetic young manager. Besides, he has his hands full with Miss Marlowe, ne has his hands full with Miss Marlowe, to mention only one of his stars. The curious part of the story is this: Miss Allen has never approached Mr. Dillingham; Mr. Dillingham has never made Miss Allen an offer. Nor will he be her manager next season. Who will be, now that she has signified her intention of leaving Liebler & Co.? The personal tastes of our theatrical

managers would furnish interesting facts for psychologists. For example, there is Mr. Benjamin Roeder. His pet mania is chamber music. That is, he will go withchamber music. That is, he will go without his meals so that he may enjoy good
music. A Beethoven or Tschaikowsky
string quartet, a violin concerto of Mendelssohn, Bruch, Brahms, are the delights
of this hard-working manager of the Belasco
Theatre. And he hears a lot of good music
at home, for he is married to Geraldine
Morgan, the well-known violinist and leader
of the Morgan String Quartet. With all
the comforts of a musical fireside, Mr.
Roeder can bid defiance to rainy Sundays.

While her audiences are looking at Blanche Ring as "The Jewel of Asia," that graceful charmer often takes notes on her wn account.

"I am especially amused when our twelve show girls are singing and parading through Love Is a Game, a feature of the last act. From the wings I can scan the faces of those on the other side of the footlights. The visages of the men express delight, appreciation, satisfaction, while the women, as a rule, look rather disconcerned or else contemptuous. I imagine that I almost hear one saying: 'Humph! I don't think much of those figures, do you? I gue so the managers must be blind or girls a wfully care. Why, we could do better than that!"

carce. Why, we could do better than that!"

Miss Ring will be writing a book next. Such penetration as this should not be allowed to wither. But we fear her book might not be popular with the girls—she is too truthful.

Harry B. Smith is, as his friends know, an omnivorous reader and an authority on half a dozen literary epochs. His library makes the heart of the book collector grow sad—it seems to embrace so many treasures. He is a great stickler for proper costuming and is an encylop dia on the sub-ject. He is writing with Gustave Kerker

ject. He is writing with Gustave Kerker a musical comedy for Blanche Ring—who is always pursued by the Nibelungs!—and has had many consultations with Manager George W. Lederer on the all-consuming topic of dressings.

It is not until Kemble's time," said Mr. Smith, "that attention was given to the correct costuming of theatrical characters. Our great-grandfathers did not trouble themselves to inquire whether David Garrick was dressed in accordance with the time in which his characters moved and had their being, or, indeed, with their actual surroundings. All the audience cared for was David Garrick. One picture represents Garrick in the fighting scenes of Macbeth wearing a sort of Spanish dress, siashed trunks, a breastplate, and—heaven—save—the mark!—a high-crowned hat.

Barber shop stories are cropping up. Robert Lorraine, who plays David Garrick with Grace George in "Pretty Peggy," was in a burry the other right and went into a strange barber shop on a side street for a or lek shave. A bree building squatting

tion. As he sat down it licked its lips with such evident satisfaction that the actor's nerves were a bit shaken.

"That's a clever-looking brute," he said as the barber began lathering him.

"Clever! I should say so," replied the slasher of skins greatly flattered. "And a memory! Why, three weeks ago while I was shaving a man the razor slipped and cut off his nose. The dog ate it before I could stop him. Since then he stands by me whenever I work, waiting for another nose, I guess."

nose, I guess.

After he escaped into the open Mr. Lor-raine bought a safety razor. "AS YOU LIKE IT" OUT OF DOORS,

With Velvet Turf and a Noble Proscet at Columbia-150 Patronesses.

The list of patronesses for the open-air performance of "As You Like It" by proessional talent, which Mrs. James H. Speyer s getting up for the afternoon of May 14. South Field, Columbia University, in aid of the Kindergarten of the University Settlement, includes the name of 126 of the best-known women in New York and New-

South Field, at 116th street and Amsterdam avenue, in its southwest corner, forms a natural amphitheatre, and President Butler of Columbia has placed it at the disposal of those who are getting up the per-formance. There are some fine old trees on the plot, so situated as to form a pro-scenium arch of verdure. The undergrowth will be cut away, leaving a stage of turf with flies of foliage.

As told in THE SUN yesterday, Ben Greet As told in THE SUN yesterday, Ben Greet of London, who is managing the production of "Everyman," will direct the performance and most of the cast will be chosen from his company. The only part definitely filled so far is that of Rosalind, which will be played by Miss Wynne Matthison, who now has the title rôle in "Everyman."

Charles Frohman is interested in the project and will lend every aid in his power to make it a success. Mr. Greet has been identified with open-air Shakespearean performances in England for many years. He has annually staged similar presentations at Oxford and Cambridge and he initiated the out-of-door performances in Regents'

out-of-door performances in Regents'

PORTICO INJUNCTION VACATED. Klaw & Erlanger Beat Their Neighbor, the

Ex-Park Comn Supreme Court Justice Gildersleeve vacated yesterday the temporary injunction obtained by Samuel McMillan which prevented the Klaw & Erlanger Construction Company from erecting ornamental pillars in front of the New Amsterdam Theatre.

McMillan, who owns the adjoining property, said that the pillars projected four erty, said that the pillars projected four feet beyond the stoop line and damaged his property. The Klaw & Erlanger people denied that McMillan would be injured, and replied that his own property was in violation of stoop law and that he was merely prosecuting this action for spite because they had refused to pay him an exorbitant price for his property.

Justice Gildersleeve vacated the injunction, saying that the facts at issue are so flatly in dispute that they can only be determined on the trial of McMillan's suit in the regular course.

in the regular course.

The Court also remarked that McMillan permitted the structure to which he objects to be erected before he took action, and that the benefits he would secure from the continuance of the action are yery small compared with the injury to the COMIC SONGS GO ON SUNDAY.

The Great Maggie Cline Test Case Decided by Magistrate Mayo.

Maggie Cline sang "Throw Him Down, McCluskey," at the New York Theatre on Sunday night, March 22, at one of Teddy Marks's concerts. Marks was haled to court for permitting her to do it, and Wilin the front screamed with laughter. It liam Massand of the Circle Theatre was summonsed for permitting comic songs, moving pictures and instrumental music on his stage on the same evening. The complaints were drawn under Section 1481

of the Charter or "the Sunday Concert law," as is usual in such cases.

Magistrate Mayo decided yesterday in the Tombs police court that the law had not been violated "because singing, playing of musical instruments and exhibiting moving pictures are not included in the category of things enumerated in Section 1481. None of the matters complained of constitutes an entertainment of the stage such as is contemplated and inhibited by the section under consideration."

The decision was awaited with interest by theatrical men, a number of whom, it is said, had cases whose disposition de-pended on what Magistrate Mayo decided.

TRIGGS OF CHICAGO IS SORRY Would Like to Be Advance Agent for the Show, but Can't.

Prof. Oscar L. Triggs of the Chicago University, to whom was offered the job of advance man to the Liebler & Co. production of "Romeo and Juliet," declined the job, not because he didn't like it, but because of other work he had previously mapped out. Liebler & Co. were willing to pay Prof. Triggs \$700 a week to keep in advance of the show and work up enthusiasm by lecturing. In declining, Prof. Triggs says :

Triggs says;

If you had written to me earlier I might have adjusted my own work to this engaryment. I regret my inability at this time to take advantage of this opportunity, for the plan proposed seems to me to be an excellent one. I would regard it, from my point of view, as an educational opportunity. It would gratify me to be able to present my views on drama, on Shakespeare, and on this particular play, to audiences that would gather together from a serious interest in the drama itself. This would be a form of "university extension" not hitherto tried, and which should be attended with good educational results—such as I would desire and such also as I assume you would desire.

INSURANCE MEN AT THEATRE.

John A. McCall Treats 150 New York Life Agents to a Good Time.

John A. McCall, the president of the New York Life Insurance Company, brought 150 of the company's general agents and their wives to town yesterday and after

their wives to town yesterday and after a dinner at the Plaza took them in seventy-five automobiles to Wallack's Theatre to see "The Sultan of Sulu."

One of the characters in the play is a New York Life agent who sells a policy to the Sultan. The character has been in the play right along, but Mr. McCall's guests apparently thought he had been put in for their special benefit, for they applauded everything he did and said.

TO REMODEL EMPIRE THEATRE \$100,000 to Be Spent in Changes and Restoration of the Interior.

The Empire Theatre, at Broadway and Fortieth street, is to be remodelled by Frank Sanger and Alf Hayman, the owners, at a Sanger and Air Hayman, the owners, at a cost of \$100,000. The two galleries are to be reconstructed, their grade being changed; the present supporting posts are to be removed, and a new and higher proscenium arch built. The interior is also to be redecorated. Plans were filed with the Building Bureau yesterday. The work is to be under the supervision of Carrère & Hastings, architects.

Grout at Atlantic City. Comptroller Grout, who has had the grip, has gone to Atlantic City to stay over Easter.

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ron Fifth Ave., N. Y., cor. 42d St.

THE DIAMOND-BACKED DITCH.

REAR SEATS FOR TWEED COURT HOUSE AND THE CAPITOL!

They May Be Remembered as Models of Economy When the Canal Has Swallowed \$101.000,000 of Public Money -Some Vagaries of the Estimates.

From its seat on the Albany hill the State Capitol building started a semaphoric conversation with the squat Tweed Court House, in City Hall Park.

"The ditch is laughing at you," signalled the Capitol. "Have you heard the news? Through the starry night the Tweed Court House wigwagged for enlightenment. "The Governor's just signed a bill to give the ditch another hundred millions," flashed the Capitol. "Where are you now?

after, you and your paltry \$12,000,000 of graft. "You didn't cost but \$28,000,000," jibed back the Tweed Court House. "When they get started on the ditch you'll be pointed out as a high example of economical construction."

You won't be even a figure of speech here-

"How much was paid for your carpets-\$5,600,000?" asked the Capitol. "Hush," cried the Tweed Court House. "Did I hear your Assembly chamber ceiling

crack?' "It's the canal again," explained the Capitol. "It thinks it's going to be flushed with champagne."

When the people voted to spend \$9,000,000 on a plan which was to bring the Erie Canal 'up-to-date" the taxpayer who doesn't study canal history closely thought that was to settle the agitation. The money was spent and when the last cent of the appropriation was gone it was found that the most tangible result was a lot of suits before the Court of Claims by contractors who wanted more money.

The Roosevelt committee on canals of

1899 in recommending the expenditure of more millions spoke of "the unfortunate results of the \$9,000,000 appropriation." The State Engineer was directed to make a thorough investigation of the subject of canal enlargement and the Governor sent it to the Legislature with a message to the effect that in his opinion the best thing to be done would be to complete the enlargement already begun. Nine millions had been spent, the amount of the estimate, and the work was only "begun."

The State Engineer then made an estimate that the cost of completing the work under that plan would be \$24,000,000. The Legislature suggested some additional items which the Engineer had not inserted and brought the estimate up to \$26,000,000, making the total \$35,000,000, or \$1,000,000 short of four times the original estimate.

Then came the barge canal proposition. The Roosevelt committee fixed its probable cost at \$58,894,608. The original Davis bill called for \$82,000,000, and the State Engineer, made giddy by the string of fig-ures, generously added \$19,000,000 with two strokes of his pen. If the State's experience with the \$9,000,000

appropriation should be repeated with the proposed investment of \$100,000,000 the one-thousand-ton barge canal would cost \$400,000,000. Persons who want to see a practical dem-

onstration of how much of the State's

revenues the canal can engulf will have an opportunity to vote for the \$101,000,000 bill next November. Conried Takes Over the Opera House. Heinrich Conried signed the lease of the Metropolitan Opera House yesterday, G.G. Haven signing it for the Metropolitan Opera and Real Estate Company. Mr. Conried had to submit to the executive committee of the company the names of six artists who were satisfactory. This has been done.



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FARMERS DON'T WANT THE CANAL They Prefer to See State Money Spent on

Good Roads, Editor Meyrick Says. The Sphinx Club, an organization of ad-The Sphinx Club, an organization of advertising men, had its monthly dinner at the Waldorf last night and called the affair "farmers' night." Just why the advertising men should have a "farmers' night wasn't made clear. Perhaps it was because Uncle George H. Daniels, the toastmaster, calls himself something of a farmer, and perhaps it was because it's Holy Week.

The guests were Willis L. Moore, chief of the United States Weather Bureau, Col. J. H. Brigham, Assistant Secretary of the De-

the United States Weather Bureau, Col. J. H. Brigham, Assistant Secretary of the De-partment of Agriculture, and Herbert Mey-rick, editor of the American Agriculturial, Editor Meyrick said

Editor Meyrick said

In New York State the agricultural vote will be almost a unit against the grab of \$100,000,000 for the Eric Canal. Farmers feel that the big ditch should be a national rather than a State affair and that good roads used by the many are a better investment than millions in a canal used by a few. And the farmer vote is more influential than that of the city.

Instead of taking in cheap rant against trusts, the more intelligent farmers are ralleing the tremendous power of cooperation and that by employing this power intelligently agriculturists may secure a dominant position.

AMELIA BINGHAM DEEPLY HURT Somebody Hinted She'd Been Fighting

With Her Husband-Warrant Out. Amelia Bingham may frisk in "The Frisky Mrs. Johnson," but when anybody says, because her face is swollen, that she had a fight with her husband, that is going too far. Her face was swollen on Friday and Saturday—from neuralgia. But a person who writes for a newspaper as "Jean Dupree," said this about it in print yesterday

morning:

Now, what do you think of this? The Lloyd-Amelia Binghams have had, a row. Impossible? Read and know. And it was an awful row, too. Not one of those "I say you did" and "I say you didn't," and "Oh, Gussie, you are so cruel," and a chocolate caramel make-up with a matinée promise for Saturday. No, indeed, The Lloyd-Amelia Binghams are strenuous people of strenuous ancestry. They had theirs in the good old-fashioned way. Amelia -received a bruised and a blackened eye. Lloyd's injuries were not visible, and his friends claim that he won the battle without receiving a scratch.

Miss Bingham, when she read this yesterday morning, gulped down her coffee and started for Lawyer Benjamin Steinhardt's office. They went to Justice Mayer in the Special Sessions and got him to issue a warrant for "Jean Dupree." for criminal libel. "Jean" hadn't been arrested at a late hour last night. Rumor had it that "Jean" is a woman.

"Jean" is a woman.

Miss Bingham cried as she told a Sun reporter about it last night. She said that lots of people had been trying to make the public believe that she and her husband didn't get along well together and she had got tired of the slander.

Mayor Vetoes Roof Garden Bill. The Mayor has returned to Albany without his approval the bill making it mandatory upon the city to erect a public bath, gymnasium and roof garden on the East Side between Thirty-ninth and Forty-



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AMELIA BINGHAM—The Frisky Mrs. Johnson ONE WEEK ONLY — SPOTLESS TOWN.

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